

Top Secret

25X1



DIRECTORATE OF
INTELLIGENCE

Central Intelligence Bulletin

25X1



Top Secret

c 210

25 November 1967

25X1

Approved For Release 2002/08/29 : CIA-RDP79T00975A010500200001-2

Approved For Release 2002/08/29 : CIA-RDP79T00975A010500200001-2

25 November 1967

25X1

Central Intelligence Bulletin

CONTENTS

Cyprus: Gap between Greek and Turkish positions has narrowed slightly. (Page 1)

25X1

Panama: Arnulfo Arias is early front-runner in presidential race. (Page 3)

25X1

OAU-Nigeria: OAU mission will find mediated settlement hard to come by. (Page 5)

India: West Bengal strike (Page 6)

International Communism: February meeting (Page 6)

25X1

25X1

*Cyprus: The gap between the Turkish and Greek positions on a Cyprus settlement has narrowed slightly, but the improvement may not be enough to prevent an early Turkish military move.

Greece is now willing to begin removing its troops from the island with an initial repatriation of 500 if Turkey will begin to return to a normal military stance.

[redacted] Ankara is now willing to drop its demand for immediate withdrawal of all Greek "illegals" on condition that Athens furnish an "exact schedule" and that the departures be supervised by UN forces and representatives of the London-Zurich signatory powers.

[redacted] Demirel cannot long withstand public pressures to impose a solution in the dispute. [redacted]

25X1

25X1

Athens has made its implementation of a phased withdrawal dependent on an appeal for a force reduction from UN Secretary General Thant, to which Greece, Turkey, and Cyprus would then respond. Thant, after some initial hesitation, has issued this appeal, but without referring to the troop levels authorized by the London-Zurich agreements. This will imperil chances of Thant's appeal being accepted in Ankara, which sees a return to these force levels as a basic objective.

Both Turkey and Greece remain in a high state of military preparedness. An invasion force and its back-up estimated to total about 35,000 troops is poised in assembly areas along Turkey's south coast. Most of the Turkish General Staff has left Ankara. Both Greek and Greek Cypriot military activity has been of a defensive nature, and spokesmen in Athens and Nicosia profess to believe that Turkey is "merely bluffing." [redacted]

25X1

25 Nov 67

1

25X1

25X1

Approved For Release 2002/08/29 : CIA-RDP79T00975A010500200001-2

Approved For Release 2002/08/29 : CIA-RDP79T00975A010500200001-2

Panama: Opposition leader Arnulfo Arias is building up major support for the presidential election next May.

Four parties, which defected from the eight-party government coalition, have joined Arias' mass-based Panamenista Party in a new opposition alliance. Arias would head the presidential ticket of the alliance, with two prominent leaders of the dissident parties as first and second vice president. Arias has been ousted from the presidency on two previous occasions for his authoritarian excesses.

The breakup of the government coalition was precipitated by President Robles' recent appointment of six "nonpolitical" cabinet members without consulting the four dissident party leaders. They were already disenchanted with the president's [] performance as a political tactician after he had tried unsuccessfully for over two months to come up with an acceptable candidate.

25X6

The new alliance may already have National Guard Commandant Bolivar Vallarino's acquiescence to the Arias candidacy. Although Vallarino and Arias are longtime enemies, the general's business and family ties to dissident party members would make such a deal possible.

Robles is again backing ex-finance minister Samudio for the presidency, but, with the support of only two government parties, he is a weak match for the Arias alliance. []

25X1

25 Nov 67

3

25X1

25X1

Approved For Release 2002/08/29 : CIA-RDP79T00975A010500200001-2

Approved For Release 2002/08/29 : CIA-RDP79T00975A010500200001-2

[REDACTED]

OAU-Nigeria: The Organization of African Unity mission to Nigeria will continue to seek a settlement of the Nigerian dispute.

In the 23 November communiqué, the mission reaffirmed its support of the Lagos government. It called on the Biafrans to renounce secession and accept the present administrative structure of Nigeria. The Lagos government, while still opposed to OAU mediation, has agreed that one of the mission members, General Ankrah of Ghana, could establish contact with the Biafrans to transmit Lagos' terms for a settlement. Ankrah is to report back to the mission which will remain in "constant touch" with the federal government.

The OAU mission will find it hard to break the logjam. Lagos insists that the rebels renounce their secession, agree to take their place as one of the twelve federal states, and drop Ojukwu. The Biafran radio, commenting on the OAU mission, stated that Biafra is ready to negotiate but clearly implied it would do so only as a sovereign state.

On the military front, federal commanders are moving slowly and carefully in the face of stubborn resistance by the Biafrans. The rebels are doggedly sticking to their fight for independence as Ojukwu and other leaders exhort the Ibos to greater efforts and larger sacrifices. [REDACTED]

25 Nov 67

5

25X1

NOTES

India: The ousted United Front coalition in West Bengal yesterday called an end to a 48-hour general strike which paralyzed Calcutta. Police and military units were able to contain the Communist-inspired violence--which was apparently limited largely to the Calcutta area--but not without numerous bloody clashes with angry mobs. The Front has vowed to instigate an "even greater struggle" on 29 November, the date when the new Congress Party - supported state government faces its first test of strength in the state legislature.

[REDACTED]

*International Communism: A conclave of Communist parties, ostensibly to lay the groundwork for an international party conference, has been called for February in Budapest. Yesterday's announcement from Moscow indicated that all Communist parties had been invited, but several ruling parties are likely to refuse, seeing the meeting as an attempt to reassert the Soviet claim to leadership of the Communist movement. It remains doubtful that Moscow regards an over-all world conference as a realistic prospect, and its present aim is merely to give the appearance of progress toward unity.

[REDACTED]

25X1

25X1

25 Nov 67

6

25X1

Top Secret



Top Secret